



DECLASSIFIED Pol 30 CAM/B
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TELEGRAM

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18
ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 UPW-01 NIC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01
SS-20 USIA-12 IO-13 ~~RSR-01~~ /117 W

026992

P R 060815Z MAY 70
FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8529
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
CINCPAC
FBIS OKINAWA

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY Trukley DATE 10/9/80
RD ☐ EXT. DATE _____
TS _____ REASON(S) _____
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒
RELEASE DENIED ☐
PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS _____

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 1640

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

SUB: PEKING ANNOUNCES, RECOGNIZES SIHANOUK
GOVERNMENT.

REF: HONG KONG 1623.

2 IMMEDIATELY AFTER SIHANOUK'S MAY 5 ANNOUNCEMENT IN
PEKING THAT HE HAD FORMED "ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL
UNION", PRC ANNOUNCED ITS RECOGNITION IN FORM OF CHOU EN-LAI

LETTER TO SIHANOUK (NCNA MAY 5) WHICH ALSO DECLARED FORMAL
SEVERANCE OF ALL DIPLOMATIC TIES, "ALREADY LONG SEVERED",
WITH LON NOL GOVT AND STATED PEKING WOULD WITHDRAW ALL
DIPLOMATIC AND OTHER PERSONNEL FROM CAMBODIAN CAPITAL.

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2. PEKING'S CALCULUS. FAST PACE OF APPARENTLY COORDINATED MOVES BY SIHANOUK AND HIS CHINESE AND VIETNAMESE ALLIES DURING PAST MONTH CONTRASTS WITH EARLIER SITUATION IN WEEKS FOLLOWING HIS OVERTHROW WHEN PEKING SEEMED HESITANT ABOUT PUTTING ALL ITS CHIPS ON THE PRINCE. STARTING FROM TIME OF CHOU EN-LAI'S VISIT TO NORTH KOREA IN EARLY APRIL, CHINESE HAVE FORMALLY ENDORSED SIHANOUK'S MARCH 23 MANIFESTO, ARRANGED HOLDING OF INDOCHINESE SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN CHINA, ISSUED TWO GOVT STATEMENTS AND TWO PEOPLE'S DAILY EDITORIALS ON SITUATION AND ARE NOW FIRST TO RECOGNIZE NEW SIHANOUK GOVT. THESE MOVES REFLECT A CONSIDERABLE ABILITY BY PRC LEADERSHIP AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS MACHINERY TO AGREE UPON A COURSE OF ACTION AND THEN IMPLEMENT IT PROMPTLY AND VIGOROUSLY. PEKING HAS APPARENTLY DECIDED: THAT LON NOL MUST BE WRITTEN OFF; THAT CHANCES FOR SIHANOUK RESTORATION ARE PROMISING; THAT SOVIETS SHOULD BE OUTDISTANCED AND, IF POSSIBLE, CUT OUT OF PICTURE; THAT SOLIDARITY WITH HANOI SHOULD BE TIGHTENED AND THAT CHINESE SHOULD CONTINUE AVOID DIRECT MILITARY INVOLVEMENT, YET BE FORTHCOMING IN PROVISION OF REQUIRED MILITARY SUPPLIES AND POLITICAL SUPPORT (REFTEL).

3. BOTH PRC AND SIHANOUK ARE PROBABLY ATTRACTED TO FORMATION OF NEW CAMBODIAN "ROYAL GOVT" AS MEANS OF GIVING PRINCE, AND THE KHMERS, AURA OF INDEPENDENCE VIS-A-VIS HANOI. FOR WHAT IT MAY BE WORTH, PEKING, UP TO NOW, HAS WAITED FOR THE DRV TO COMMENT ON OR ANNOUNCE MAJOR INDOCHINA DEVELOPMENTS AND THEN SHE FOLLOWED SUIT. THIS TIME MAKING,

WITH ALACRITY, ANNOUNCED RECOGNITION ALMOST SIMULTANEOUS WITH SIHANOUK'S DECLARATION OF A NEW GOVT. AS FAR AS WE AWARE, HANOI HAS NOT YET EXTENDED RECOGNITION THOUGH PRESUMABLY IT WILL DO SO SHORTLY.

4. PEKING'S ABRUPT SEVERANCE RELATIONS WITH CAMBODIAN GOVT IN PHNOM PENH GOES BEYOND WHAT ANY OTHER REGIME (EXCEPT ALBANIA) HAS DONE TO DATE (INCLUDING DRV AND NLF/PRG) AND GIVES STRONG FILLIP TO SIHANOUK'S EFFORTS IN THIS DIRECTION. AT MAY 5 PEKING PRESS CONFERENCE, SIHANOUK DECLARED THAT FOREIGN GOVTS, ESPECIALLY "PROGRESSIVE AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST" ONES, MUST NOT ONLY CONDEMN LON NOL GOVT, THEY MUST ABANDON AND ISOLATE IT -- A WAY OF PRESSURING

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MOSCOW THAT MUST DELIGHT CHINESE HEARTS.

5. KYODO DISPATCH FROM PEKING CITES SIHANOUK AS STATING
(AT PRESS CONFERENCE) THAT HE WILL VISIT HANOI AT INVITA-
TION OF PHAM VAN DONG. SIHANOUK REPORTEDLY REFUSED, HOW-
EVER, TO DISCLOSE WHEN HE WOULD RETURN TO CAMBODIA, AND
HIS MAY 5 ANNOUNCEMENT MAKES NO MENTION OF HIS INTENTIONS
IN THIS REGARD.
MARTIN

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